COMPREHENSIVENESS OF VIEW

It will be admitted by all that the times in which we live, more than any other period in the history of the Republic, call for a patriotism which shall be intelligent and comprehensive, well-balanced, and full-orbed. Want of completeness or breadth of view may often mislead as fatally as a positive misconception of what is actually embraced in the field of vision; for, as has been well said by Bacon, truth emerges sooner from error than from confusion, and nothing so tends to confuse the mind as an inadequate perception of topics upon which it undertakes to pronounce judgment. The mistaken practice that arises from actual error in the understanding may be often more easily corrected than the perverse and distorted conduct which results from partial knowledge and one-sided appreciations, especially when the latter are accompanied, as they generally are, with a fervent zeal for particular opinions and prepossessions.

It is in men whose views of duty are insufficient that we most frequently find the highest degree of self-sufficiency, and, where this is the case, the very light that is in them becomes more confounding than confessed and discovered darkness. which always induces caution and hesitation. If we would see clearly the path in which we can tread with safety there must be circumspection, embracing all the phenomena around us, as well as noting the road that points in the right line of our own preconceived destination. The farthest way round, as the old proverb declares, is sometimes the shortest road home, but it is only those who are "circumspect" that can ever profit by the aphorism.

If we scan the opinions of men as developed by the events which now fix the attention of the American people in all the Loyal States, we shall find every where the traces of this half knowledge and of this insufficient perception of the elements entering into the great contest. There are some who, in their zeal for slavery, are in danger of forgetting that the grand issue, paramount to all others, is the preservation of our Constitution and form of Government, as well in its territorial integrity as in its principles and genius. They are for the Union, but not without slavery.

There are others who, in their zeal against slavery, are in danger of sharing the same forgetfulness as to the paramount issue, preferring to it the violent and immediate extermination of a hated institution at whatever damage to the edifice of our civil liberties. They are for the Union, but not

There are some who, in their zeal against the Administration, are in danger of forgetting that we have a Government, which existed before the Administration, as it is destined to survive it, and which, as such, is worthy to command the best allegiance and most loyal support of all good citizens, who, in giving this allegiance and this support to the Government, are required to give all due honor and obedience to the temporary incumbents of official place-it being always understood in a constitutional country, and in a Government of laws, and not of men, that "due henor and obedience" mean submission to laws and not complaisance to men.

There are others whe, in their zeal for the Ad ministration, are in danger of forgetting themselves, and of denying to others the right of American freemen freely to canvass the acts of their rulers. and who would fain substitute the Administration for the Government, thus subverting the very conditions of rational loyalty by identifying the stable forms of the Constitution with the personal merits or demerits of men clothed in brief au-

There are some who, in their zeal against particular abuses of power, the incidents of all great civil convulsions, are in danger of giving to these incidents a preponderance over the mighty issue which is on trial before the American people. Disaffected and disheartened by the errors, or, it may be, by the arbitrary and illegal assumptions of this officer and that, they are tempted to turn away in disgust or despair from the duties of a constant and unswerving patriotism. Nothing betrays like such despondency, and it is a recreancy against which all good citizens are called to guard, not by overlooking and certainly not by winking at the usurpations of power, but by avoiding that exaggeration of view which would permit the shortcomings of a civil officer or the exactions of a military commander to blind the eyes to a perception of the real crisis in all its magnitude.

There are others who, in their partisan zeal for particular officers and commanders, and who, in their heatless sacrifice of principles to please men, are in danger of forgetting that all abuses and usurpations, sooner of later, bring weakness and schism upon the body politic, and that, in this view, they should be promptly checked and severely rebuked wherever they make their appearance.

We have thus signalized a few of the instances in which men of different prepossessions are in danger of erring from a defect in the scope of their vision. All these misconceptions of duty may be generalized under a single head, for they all spring from an inadequate sense of that due proportion and natural relation which exist among all things, if men are only skilled to discover them. And all right action in the figure of human society must regulate itself by a comprehensive as well as a clear analysis of the elements that make up any political situation.

DEPARTURE OF ADMIRAL MILNE

A letter from Halifax reports that Sir ALEX MILNE. paval commander-in-chief on that station, having been succeeded in the command by Rear Admiral Sir James HOPE, sailed for England via Bermuda. He was much esteemed, and the merchants of Halifax presented an address to him before his departure. In replying to this address be paid a high tribute to the naval commanders and to the payal authorities and Government of the United States for the uniform kindness and courtesy manifested toward himself and the officers under him in all their intercourse. He also stated that the Government of that country acted honorably and promptly with regard to every | peralty of being tried as spics. communication sent to it by him. This reply is very distasteful to the rebel sympath zers in Halifax,

We are requested to ancounce that from this date notil the meeting of Congress the President will be unable to receive visiters, his time being fully occupied by public business

SUFFERINGS OF THE CONTRABANDS

According to an official report from a committee apcointed by the Chaplains' Association at Vicksburg to ascertain the number and wants of the contrabands in the Department of the Tennessee, there are on the banks of the Mississippi, from Helena to Natchez, not less than thirty-five thousand. Of these, about ten thousand are near Vicksburg, five hundred of whom only are men, except those in the army. There are nine thousand near Goodrich's Landing, in Louisiana. Others are scattered about in smaller collections. A few work upon the leased plantations or for themselves, but most are dependent upon the Government for support. Their condition is a very destitute and almost hopeless one. The report says, as to health, "That there has been fearful mortality among the freedmen, both the enlisted soldiers and the camps of the infirm, we have agomzingly felt." Their prospects for the winter are of the most gloomy character.

The New Orleans correspondent of a New York paper thus speaks of the condition of affairs on some of the "Government plantations in Louisiana: "

"While referring to the subject of plantations, my attention has been called to the apparently impartial report of Mr. W. H. Wilder, the in pector of plantations, who ecently visited the plantations under the control of Col. lanks, superintendent of contrabands. He says, in his epert to the proper authorities: 'More particularly would call your attention to the Old Hickory plantation The mortality that has and is occurring there is truly appalling. On White Castle plantation, out of one hundred and forty-nine negroes, eighty five bave died and twentywo have run away, thus leaving but forty-two of the origioal number. At the Old Hickory plantation these were four hundred and thirteen negroes; of these two hundred

and two have died since June last. On my visit there I ound thirty-eight negroes sick, without proper nurses of medical attendance. The hospital is a building eighteen by twenty three feet in size, in which the sick referred to In the midst of this lazar h use was the dead body of a woman who had died on Wednesday, at three o'clock A. M. At five o'clock P. M. the following lay no measures had been taken for her sepulture." The New York Times has a long letter written this month from Goodrich's Landing, in Louisiana, in which

the writer states that the operations on the plantations within that district are more successful than in the vicinity of New Orleans. He states that between Lake Providence and Milliken's Bend, a distance of about fity miles, forty-five plantations have been leased-some to resident whites, some to Northern men, and fifteen to negroes Elsewhere there is little doing. The negroes, we are told are more successful in raising cotton than the whites. Yet on one of the plantations operated by two negroes employing about fifty hands, only forty bales of cotton will be raised. And this, the best, is only about one-tenth of a crop. Of the condition of the negroes at this point the letter says:

"There is and has been a great deal of discontent and grumbling among all classes, and there has also been a great deal of suffering. Scarcely any of the negroes on the plantations bereabouts were raised in this immediate part of the country. All have come from Mississippi and from the back country. Perhaps the most marked trait in the negro character is his love of home and of the lo calities to which he is accustomed. They all pine for their homes. They long for the old quarters they have lived in, for the old woods they have roamed in, and the old fields they have tilled. The surgeons in charge of contraband camps tell me that a great many of them actually die from home sickness, or, in scientific language, nostal-gia. They get thinking of their old homes, and if they have left their families or any part of them behind they ng to see them, and so they become depressed in spirite and yield . adily to the first altack of disease, or succumb to the depression area. The negroes here are at work and earning wages, and they a not so liable to sicknessbut many of them when they first came we. - compelled to lie for several days on the levee in the cold and .

There was no shelter for them. They came by hundreds to seek the protection of our troops. Many of them ne-cessarily died from exposure, and the memory of those days of suffering and death still lingers among them. Under these circumstances, it is inevitable that there should be a great deal of discontent and complaint among

But, coming nearer home, we find in the Windsor (Vermont) Journal of the 14th instant a letter from Mr. James P. Stone, a missionary at Hampton, near Fortress Monroe, which shows that the condition of the "contrabands" in Southeastern Virginia is but little better in some respects than that of the same race on the banks of the Mississippi. Mr. Stone, after referring to the reception and distribution of a quantity of old clothing forwarded to him in answer to a previous appeal, proceeds as follows:

"But what is the little which has already reached us among such a multitude of eager applicants? Yesterday ome two hundred were at our door, only a part of whom, course, could receive any thing. To those whom we as the most needy were given what we could, ut not by any means what they needed, or what we de sired to give. If we had three bundred barrels of good and warm clothing and bedding we could soon dispose of t ail, either in this or the neighboring missions, without giving any body an article too much. Let none apprehend that if they send us all they can spare our market will oon be glutted. We have no fears of getting more goods than we can dispose of; but we do fear and expect that many will greatly suffer, and that some will die before spring for want of what we are endeavoring to obtain from riends at the North for them. Even colored people cannot endure every thing. They, as well as others, must die when they cannot live; and live they cannot, when through exposure and hardships, cold and bunger, mortal disease endured, and the principle of vitality extinguished. Allow us, then, again to say to the good people of Ver-mont, Do not forget the colored people of Southeastern Virginia. Send us your cast-off clothing; send all that you can spare; send, especially at this season of the year, that which will help to keep the people warm, by day or by night. I speak of second-hand or cast-off clothing because we have more hope of obtaining that soon. But of course new garments will not be objected to, and the more that

are new the better.' The foregoing statements, it will be seen, coincide with those from other sources - and sources not unfriendly to the blacks-which we have heretofore had occasion from time to time to place on record in our columns. Remarking upon these tales of misery, and especially upon the disclosures lately made at a public meeting in New York by the Rev. Mr. Fiske, the Boston Post asks:

" Is there a single element in this cup of horrors of im nediate emancipation that thoughtful minds have not pre ficted? Have not all the evils been enumerated? there one left out? It is the whole world's experience that races, long dependent, long enervated by oppression must be educated up to a state in which to enjoy the bless ings of freedom; and those who would invite them into a state where starvation is before them are responsible for

"The great problem before the country is to deal with four millions of negroes, and determine the relations which eix or eight millions of whites shall bear to them. And now who is to solve this problem? Who are to be the law makers to do this? The radicals who say the Federal Constitution is played out, unhesitatingly answer, Congrees; and the plan adopted, in supplying the negroes with rations, is avowed to be the beginning of a general system. " Let this be looked at fully in the face.

tablish the paternal policy of a government's taking care for two years past among the manufacturers, and who does not know of Ireland to her starvation years? But the British Government never undertook to take care of the millions of its distressed population. Can this be done by the Federal Government

"The problem of race is forcing itself on the country with painful strides; and in a way that will not admit of postponem nt Meantime the present duty is clear. There must be ways d-vised to prevent further suffering and to relieve the present horrors. The radical recipe of amul gamstion and fulsome promises will not clothe the destitute or feed the starving, and for the remedy the country must look elsewhere.

EXILE OF EX-GOVERNOR PRATT.

It was stated several days, ago that Ex Governor Pratt and other prominent citizens of Anne Arundel county (Md) had been arrested by military authority and conveyed to Baltimore. Upon reaching that city, as was an nounced by the American, "they had an interview with Gen. Schenck, who stated that they were arrested because they declined taking the oath of allegimee, on the day of the late election, to the judges at the polls, and, refusing to vote, went away in a body. They were permitted to step at Barnum's Hotel, with the opportunity of deciding whether or not they were willing to take the oath." We learn from the Sun of yesterday that the gentlemen arrested all finally consented to take the oath of adegiance with the exception of the Hon. Thomas G. Pratt and Mr. Joseph Nicholson, who, having declined to take the nath, on Monday evening last pieced on board of a steamer for Fortress Monroe, whence they are to be sent to Richmond. They are forbidden to return during the war under

Ex Governor Pratt was elected Governor of Maryland in 1844 by the Whig party, and was sub-equently chosen a Umied States Senator by the Maryland Legislature. He served one term. He was several times a member of the State Penate, and has for thirty years past occupied a prominent political position in his State. was for many years Clerk of the Maryland State Senate, NOVEMBER 18, 1863.

And subsequently a Clerk in the United States Senate.

He is well known throughout the State. SOUTHERN VIEWS OF PEACE.

From the Richmond Enquirer of November 24.

PEACE ON SOME TERMS. While a furious invading enemy is laying waste to our fair fields, demanding unconditional submission to its Government, offering no terms of peace, nor even hinting at negotiation for peace on any other basis, but avowing the unanimous purpose to deprive us of all right, of all law, and of all property; and while our devoted armies are in the field, with their arms in their hands and their banners flying, to defy and resist, and beat back that foul invasion. we do not comprehend how any man in the Confede racy can--we do not say get "honorable peace"-but even talk of honorable peace, save by vanquishing those invading

If the political system of those invading enemies break up, by reason of reverses in war, or financial troubles; if certain States of their "Union" remember that they have State rights, and act upon them by seceding fro that Union, and offering us a peace so far as they are concerned, it will be well; that will aid us materially in the one single task we have to achieve—the task of defeating and destroying the military power of our enemies. But reasonable Confederates would be at a loss to know how to can contribute to that happy state of things, except by con tinued and successful resistance in arms. Our sole policy and cunningest diplomacy is fighting, our most insinuating

negotiator is the Confederate army in line of battle Now, we perceive that, just as Congress is about t meet, certain newspapers of the Confederacy are prepar ing the way for discussions in that body about son method of obtaining peace. The other method suggested in so far as we can comprehend it, consists in the severa States of the Confederacy taking the matter out of the hands of the Confederate Government, ignoring the Government and the army, and all that the army has done and suffered for the independence of the Confederacy; and then making peace, each State for itself, as best it can There would be an honorable peace! We are sorry have to mention that such an idea has shown itself. was beli-ved that it was confined to about two newspapers, both of Raleigh, North Carolina. But somethi very similar is to be found in two other newspapers o

As it is extremely essential that the time of this Congres should not be diverted for one instant from the business of carrying on the war by any vain palaver about peace, peace, when there is no peace, we reluctantly advert to the disagreeable circumstance in order that the small distracting element may be disposed of and made innocuous the more speedily. That we may do no injustice, we reprint a passage from the Knoxville Register:

"The Richmond Enquirer, discussing the terms of which alone peace can be restored, lays down its proposi-tion in the following language: "'Save on our own terms, we can accept no peace what ever, and must fight till doomsday rather than yield an iots

them; and our terms are:
'Recognition, by the enemy, of the independence of the onfederate States.
... Withdrawal of the Yankee forces from every foct of

nfederate ground, including Kentucky and Missouri
Withdrawal of the Yankee forces from Maryland, until nat State shall decide by a free vote whether she shall re main in the old Union or ask advission into the Confederacy . Consent on the part of the Federal Government to give up to the Confederacy its proportion of the navy as it stood the time of secession, or to pay for the same

"Yielding up all pretensions on the part of the General Government to that portion of the old Territories which lies west of the Confederate States. 'An equitable settlement, on the basis of our absolute in dependence and equal rights, of all accounts of the publicles and public lands, and the advantages accruing from fo

"It will be seen that there is no uncertain or equivoca demand here; no clause capable of a double construction; no room for the entrance of the lesst little bit of doubt Submit to all we ask or have ever asked, or else we will fight you till doomsday.' That is the formula as enunraised through the Enquirer. We like the terms exceed-·here are two parties to this war, eded : but, since . -m the war, we would

and both have rights resulting ask whether the Confederate States mean ... these demands or prosecute hostilities forever? If the Enquirer be presumed to represent the Richmond author rities, we have only to state the Northern terms of peace to show how utterly impossible is its restoration through the agency of the Federal and Confederate Governments

arsenals seized in the beginning of the war. He requires the disruption of our armies, the admission of tax-gathe ers into all our cities, towns, and villages, and the subjedemands the liberation of our slaves, the forfeiture of a our property, public and private, and the reduction States to the condition of Territories, to be ruled by his satraps. These and other ultimata have been repeatedly announced by the Federal Government, all utterly rreconcilable with the proposed 'protocol' of the Rienmond newspaper.

"The fact is here broadly presented that the restoration

of peace is more remote now than ever before. The war has progressed thus far to no purpose. The North demands more than it did originally, and the South more than when the Confederate Congress first sat at Montgomery. So far the war has defeated its own purposes, and made honorable peace between the contestants as re presented at Richmond and Washington simply impos-

To the inquiry how, then, is the war ever to be ended the Register says:

"But one answer can be given to the inquiry; this war can only end through the intervention of the independent

sovereign States of the North or South?

The Appeal has observations of almost the same tenor We are pleased to find that a spirited Virginia journal, the Lynchburg Republican, is beforehand with us in meeting this strange heresy. Replying to the Register, under the heading "A Dangerous Doctrine," the Republican says: "Such is the doctrine of the Register, and we respectfully submit if it is not dishonorable to our Government effection upon our cause and our manhood. It is dishonorable to our Government, because it ignores the Confede racy and the Confederate Constitution altogether. It proses to take the whole question of peace and war out of the hands of the treaty-making power where it constitu-tionally belongs, and of placing it in the hands of the in-dividual States, North and South. So that if these States, or a majority of them, should come to terms of peace, surrendering half of the Southern territory, or inflicting any other dishonor upon us as a people, we submit to the disgraceful conditions. The Register cannot scape this conclusion of its logic, because it assumes as onsis of its argument that the Southern States will demand less of the North than the Confederate Government wit do. So that, according to the Register, the Confederate States Government is demanding more than we are enti-tled to, and therefore is in the wrong.

"But what does the Register expect to gain by separate negotiations with the Northern States, mo incoln and Seward? Are not every one of them Abolition to the core? Have not the ultra Lincoln party just carried Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York, by cor trolling majorities? Do they not control every No Are they not all for war to extermination? What then does our contemporary expect to gain by opening separate negotiations with the Yankee Sta'es? Are they not all patting Lincoln on the back, and urging him on his helish work of subjugation and emancipation 7 Has one of them proposed peace or an armistics? And, suppose it were otherwise, what right or power have the Northern and Southern States, in their individual capacity, to make peace? Does the Register wish to see our form government abolished, and the war-making power taken from it in violation of the Constitution, and given to the States individually ?

The doctrine of the editor of the Register is not only gross reflection upon our Government at Richmond-nay ore, a gross insult to our people and our armies in the held, who are contending for nothing but our unquestionable rights—but it is well calculated to encourage our enemies to prosecute the war. It argues weakness, diseat sfaction, and a want of confidence in our cause which does not ex-It also dishonors us as a people, because it make the insulted and outraged party to the war the inaugurato of conditions of peace!

Will any Southern State ever submit to peace propo sitions while its territory is trod by a vandal foe ! tope not, and we regret that so valuable a journal as the Register should ever have failen juto such a terrible

But how are we to obtain peace? asks the Register Only by hard fighting. The Yankees will make peace, and an honorable peace to us, only when they are whipped and baffled in all their attempts to conquer us."

RICHMOND MARKET. The following is the Richmond market report for th

23d instant : Apples, \$45 to \$60 a barrel. Bacon, firm at \$250 to \$3 a pound, hog round. Butter, firm at \$3 a pound. Beeswax, \$3 a \$3.50 a pound. Beans, \$15 for black, \$20

for white. Cheese, \$350 to \$7 a pound. Coffee, \$9 to \$10 a pound. Corn, \$14 to \$15 a bushel, and scarce. Cornmeal, \$15 to \$16 a bushel. Flour, the market is entirely bare, small lots arrive occasionally, and are sold at \$70 to \$100 a barrel, according to quality. scarce at \$12 a 100 pounds. Onions, \$30 a \$35 a bushs Putatoes, sweet, \$12 to \$18 a bushel; Irish, \$10 to \$12 a bushei Lime, \$15 a barrel. Lord, \$2 40 to \$2 50 a pound for small lots. Molasses, \$15 to \$16 a gallon; sorghum \$10 to \$12. Sugar, brown \$3 a pound; crushed \$4 to \$5 a pound. Salt, 35 to 40 cents a pound. Seeds, scarce, \$60 a bushel; timothy, \$12 a \$15; grass, \$5 to \$6: flaxseed, \$6 to \$7. Tar, \$25 a barrel. Wheat, market continues bare, scarcely any arriving.

SCRAPS OF MILITARY HISTORY

From the Rochester (N. Y.) Union.

While Gen. McClellan was forming his army and ar ranging his plans for the campaign which opened in the spring of 1862, a great deal was said about his designs, and many in and out of the service, who have since figured among his assailants and persecutors, were loud in proclaiming that he had none whatever of a definite nature. So successful was he in keeping his own counsel, and so persistent were the misrepresentations respecting him, that many who had full confidence in his ability and purposes began to waver. The tide turned, however, with the success of the Burnside expedition to North Carolina, which, it will be remembered, Gen. Burnside, in a comnunication to Gen. McClellan, attributed to his close observance of the latter's orders and instructions in detail, as follows:

"I beg to say to the General Commanding that I have deavored to carry out the very minute instructions given me by him before leaving Annapolis, and thus far events have been singularly coincident with his anticipations. nly hope that we may in future be able to carry out detail the remaining plans of the campaign."

Burnside's movements were made just prior to the ad ance of the Army of the Potomac, which was forced before McClellan was ready. We had bad previously Forts Henry and Donelson and Pea Ridge, and simultaneously and subsequently Island No. 10, Winchester Heights, Shilob, Fort Pulaski, and the surrender of New Orleans to Gen. Butler. The single quotation made from Gen. Bornside was of itself sufficient to warrant a very strong belief that all these successes by land and sea formed the main features of a grand and comprehensive plan, conceived by the then General-in-Chief.

But we now have something more conclusive than any amount of faith in McClellan, and to call especial attentio to it is our main purpose in recurring to that General and his plans. Mason Brothers, of New York, have just pub ished Parton's "History of General Butler in New Oreans," and incidentally in that work the fact is laid before the country that the successful capture of the great rebel metropolis, with the mouths of the Musissippi and their defences, was the work of Gen. McClellan. The order under which Gen. Butler acted tells the whole story, and t is first given the light by Mr. Parton as follows:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY.

Major General B. F. Butler, United States Army.

General: You are assigned to the command of the land forces destined to co operate with the navy in the attack upon New Orleans. tack upon New Orleans. You will use every means to keep the destination a profound secret, even from your staff efficers, with the exception of your chief of staff, and

Lieut. Weitzel, of the Engineers.

The force at your disposal will consist of the first thir een regiments named in your memorandum handed to me h person, the Twenty-first Indiana, Fourth Wisconsin and Sixth Michigan, (old and good regiments, from Baltinore.) These three regiments will await your orders at Fort Monroe. Two companies of the Twenty-first Indian are well drilled at heavy artillety. The cavalry force al-ready en route for Ship Island will be sufficient for your purposes. After full consultation with officers well ac-quainted with the country in which it is proposed to ope-rate, I have arrived at the conclusion that three light bateries fully equipped and one without horses will that will be necessary. This will make your force about 14,400 infantry, 275 cavalry, 580 artillery: total, 15 255 The commanding General of the Department of Key West is authorized to lean you, temporarily, two regiments: Fort Pickens can probably give you another which will bring your forces to nearly 18,000.

The object of your expedition is one of vital importance—the capture of New Orleans. The route selected up the Mississippi river, and the first obstacle to be encountered, perhaps the only one, is in the resistance offered by Forts St. Philip and Jackson. It is expected that the avy can reduce the works; in that case, you will after their capture, leave a sufficient garrison in them to render them perfectly secure; and it is recommended that on the

upware, the forks of the river, to cover at the pilot station, ... The troops and sum retreat in the case of a disaster. The troops and guns will of course be removed as soon as the forts a. captured. Should the navy fail to reduce the works, you will land your forces and siege train, and endeavor to breach the works, silence their fire, and carry them by assault.

The next resistance will be near the English Bend, where there are some earthen batteries; here it may be cessary for you to land your troops, to co-ope ate with the naval attack, although it is more than probable that the navy, unassisted, can accomplish the result. If these works are taken, the city of New Orleans necessarily

In that event it will probably be best to occupy Algiere with the mass of your troops, also the eastern bank of the river above the city. It may be necessary to place some troops in the city to preserve order; though, if there appears sufficient Union sentiment to control the city, it may be best for purposes of discipline to keep your men out o

After obtaining possession of New Orleans, it will be cessary to reduce all the works guarding its approaches from the east, and particularly to gain the Manchae Pass Saton Rouge, Berwick Bay, and Fort Livingston will next claim your attention. A feint on Galveston may facilitate

the objects we have in view.

I need not call your attention to the necessity of gaining possession of all the rolling stock you can, on the different always, and of obtaining control of the roads themselves The occupation of Baton Rouge, by a combined nava and land force, should be accomplished as soon as possible after you have gained New Orleans: then endeaver to oper our communication with the northern column of the Misissippi, always bearing in mind the necessity of occupying Jackson, Mississippi, as soon as you can safely do so either after or before you have effected the junction. A low nothing to divert you from obtaining full possession of all the approaches to New Orleans.

When the object is accomplished to its fullest extent, i will be necessary to make a combined attack on Mobile n order to gain possession of the barbor and works, well as to control the railway terminus at the city. It regard to this, I will send more detailed instructions, as he operations of the northern column develop themselves I may simply state that the general objects of the ex pedition are, first, the reduction of New Orleans and all its approaches; then Mobile and all its defences; then Pensacola, Galveston, &c. It is probable that by the time New Orleans is reduced it will be in the power o he Government to reinforce the land forces sufficiently t accomplish all these objects. In the mean time you wil I-ase give all the assistance in your power to the army and navy commanders in your vicinity, never losing sight of the fact that the great object to be schieved is the cap-ture and firm retention of New Orleans.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, GEORGE B. McCLELLAN. Major General Commanding, &c. &c.

A perusal of this order ought to satisfy the most skepti cal that Gen. McClellan, while holding the position of General-in Chief and before moving against Richmond, had some plans; and when the full report of his service reache the people we have no doubt it will be found that his plans f not interfered with, would have given the country in the fighting season of 1862 what it has since yearned for-a decisive victory over the rebel arms. A general order issued by Burnside to his army in North Carolina March 12 1862, just as the Army of the Potomac commenced to move in Virginia, shows that at least between these two forces there was to have been co operation. Said Gen. Burnside, addressing his troops:

"Gen. McClellan is now advancing upon Richmond The General Commanding again calls upon you for an im-portant movement which will greatly demoralize the enmy and contribute much to the success of our brothers of the Army of the Potomac.

But Gen. Burnside's "important movement" which was

to "contribute much to the success of the Army of the Potomac" never took place. Why? Let the War Office tell. McClellan, already forced to move his main armythe pivot upon which his whole comprehensive plan turned-before he was ready, by the clamor at Washington, no coner stepped into the field than he was shorn of his power as General-in-Chief-Mr. Stanton, with a sort of Aulic council," assuming the entire control of military affairs. McClellan could no longer command or direct the co-operation of Gen. Burnside or any other department commander. His very line of operations against Richmond as a role object of attainment was cut up, and departments for Wool, Banks, Fremont, and McDowell were carved out of it. The latter's command was withdrawn from his army; and, while compelled to advance against the rebel capital and fight the rebel army moving under the direction of one mind, McClellan had the incubus of the War Office upon his rear, and to his right, left, and front; entirely independent of him and subject to orders from Washington, were Wool, at Fortress Monroe; Burnside. comparatively powerless, at Newbern ; McDowell, willing and anxious, in the Washington vice on the Rappahannock Banks, obeying orders from Washington, in the Shenst doah Vailey; and Fremout up in the Mountain. The day that witnesses the publication of McClellan's report, with all his orders and the details of his operations and plans, will see him vindicated and his enemies overwhelmed

GENERAL GRANT'S VICTORY

The triumph before Chattanooga is fairly confirmed by official statements. With a loss of perhaps six thousand prisoners, five thousand stand of small arms, and fifty-two pieces of artillery-the latter mostly abandoned on the summits of Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge—the thus presents the difficulties of the "situation:" defeated army under Bragg was retreating with all its might up to last evening toward Dalton, burning the bridges in its rear to impede the fierce pursuit of Genera's Hooker and Sherman, who had orders to force it to a sur-

render or another fight. So much of the fighting in this bloody war has been mere carnage, without valuable consequences, that the contrast renders Gen. Grant's victory doubly gratifying. Whether Bragg's army is immediately overtaken and destroyed or not, his defeat must prove a staggering blow to the Confederacy. It insures Tennessee; it is the final extinction of all rebel hopes of drawing any supplies from the Southwestern States in the coming winter of destitution; it fastens our hold on the only railroad that connects Virginia with the country west of the Alleghanies; it leaves only one tier of States between our victorious Western armies and the Gulf, and opens the way to the ruilroads that connect these States with Charleston and the Atlantic coast.

Not only has Chickamauga proved to be a barren victory for the rebels, but the concentration of all their available forces to retake Chattanooga and recover Tennessee is abortive, and their desperate effort has resulted only in such a demonstration of their weakness as must dispirit and dishearten their people. It is evident that the resources of the rebels are rapidly approaching exhaustion. The inability of Gen Johnston to collect, last summer any thing like a respectable force for the relief of Pemberton, during the many weeks he was besieged in Vicksburg, was significant; but the fact that in all the time that has intervened since the battle of Chickamauga the rebels have been uaable, though putting forth their utmost energies, to collect a sufficient body of forces to hold the mounmust hasten the downfall of the rebellion. We see no way in which the rebel leaders can parry the moral effect of this great reverse but by making a scapegoat of Bragg and imputing it to his incapacity.

If Bragg's army should escape Gen. Grant's vigorous pursuit it will be too badly demoralized for effective operations in future. With their confidence shaken in themselves, their General, and in the success of their cause, the rebel soldiers will lose their old audacity. The prestige of an enterprising and constantly victorious General like Grant will weaken the nerves of their resistance by the felt impossibility of success. They can have little confidence even in a strong defensive position, after having been driven from their entrenchments on Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge.

The rebel losses in men are indeed not great, and consist mostly of prisoners; but the fifty-two pieces of artillery which we captured proves that Bragg's retreat is no mere strategic movement, made to gain a stronger position. Besides, the object of his campaign was the reco very of Chattanooga; and the abandonment of the high ground immediately in front of it, even had it been voluntary, would be a conspicuous confession of miscarriage. If it were possible for Bragg and Lougstreet to fall back and effect a junction, they might still, by the sid of good fortune and well-selected positions, retard for a while the advance of our armies to Atlanta. But, in the face of an active and vigilant commander like G.n. Grant such a junction is well high impossible; and even if accomplished would be only a temporary obstruction. It would simply release Burnside's army for offensive operations.

The rebels are cut of from Texas, from which they used to receive cattle and other important supplies; from Tennessee and the Southwest-a great food-producing regionon which they have been accustomed to draw by the East Theoressee railroad, which they can now have no hope of recovering: their crops in the region that remains to them have been scanty, and they will find it next to impossible to supply their armies. There is food enough as yet, if it were distributed; but it is in the hands of planters and farmers who know that the supply is insufficient to last till the next harvest, and who will not part with it. They will keep it for their own families; or, if they have a surplus, they will not exchange it for Confederate money. which will presently be of no value. With the short supply of food in the Confederacy, they have not only their armies to feed, but at least an extra million of negroes who have been withdrawn from the States occupied by our armies It is safe to assume, therefore, that the rebels are nearing the

A POWERFUL IRON-CLAD.

The new iron-clad Dictator, constructed at the Delemater Iron Works, New York, was prepared for launching on Saturday last, but, after the props were knecked away, the immense weight of the ship and the indifferent quality of the lubricating tallow kept her on the ways until the tide had ebbed, when it was deemed prudent to postpone the launch to another day.

The Dictator is built upon the general principle of the first menitor, but is different from that class of vessels in many important points. The annexed description of this powerful vessel will be of general interest :

The extreme length of the Diotator, over all, is there hundred and fourteen feet; its aft overhang being thirty one and forward overhang thirteen feet, leaving two hus dred and sixty feet between perpendiculars; extreme breadth fifty feet, and depth twenty two and a half feet.
The hull, in sides and frame, is constructed of iron; the

water lines are easy and the model good. The armor shelf extends outside of the bull four feet of each side, and is prodigiously strong. An idea of its im-penetrable character may be derived from the fact that the outside is covered with six one inch plates of iron fastened the most substantial manner, and inside of this are three feet of oak timber and an armor lining formed o four-and-a-halfinch bars, extending all around. The armo shelf, therefore, consists of ten and-a-quarter inches thick ness of iron and three feet of timber, and between the meta and timber is inserted a thick layer of felting. No gun yet fabricated can project a shot that will pierce the

armor iscket. The keel-plate of the Dictator is of one-inch plate; the side plates seven eighths of an inch, and the frame of double-angle iron, six by four inches.

The interior is divided into several water-tight compart ments by plate bulkheads, and the space forward of the third bulkhead below will be used for coal bunkers, through the middle of which will be a railway to carry the fuel to

The deck beams are of kyanized oak, and all the materials employed in the construction of this great war ship appear to be of the best quality.

Two engines, each having a cylinder of one hundred inches in diameter and four feet stroke, will be employed to drive the screw, which is four-bladed, twenty-two an half feet in dismeter, and of thirty-four feet pitch Steam, which is the moving force, will be supplied from six large boilers capable of furnishing five thousand horse power to the engines, and it is reasonably expected that the Dictator will have a high speed.

The boilers have fifty-six furnaces, and an aggregate grate surface of one thousand one hundred feet. Allowing twelve pounds of coal per square foot of grate surface, the vessel will require at the least one hundred and seventyfive tons of coal per day of twenty-four hours, steaming at full speed. What piston speed will be obtained from the engines remains to be seen.

As the vessel is furnished with a strong bow, its speed

strength, and mass will render it a most efficient marine ram. It is to be provided with one revolving turret fo carrying two of the most formidable guns with which i can be furnished; and it will be as impenetrable to shot of the most powerful guns as the solid rock of Gibraltar. The inside diameter of the turret is twenty-four feet i the clear; a turret directly enclosing this will be formed of six thicknesses of inch plate, riveted tegetner; and over and outside of this will be another turret, forming a sleeve, consisting of seven thicknesses of inch-plate, riveted together, and between these two circular shields, hooks or bars, five inches in thickness, will be packed and fastened securely; the whole forming one great revolving iron tower, eighteen inches in thickness, twenty-seven fee in diameter, and weighing about two hundred tons.

The design of the Dictator, the care bestowed upon it construction, and the excellent workmanship displayed upon every part of the bull and machinery, will render this vessel a credit and a powerful defence to our country Every effort is being made to advance the finishing stroker as rapidly as possible, and the vessel will soon be reported to the Navy Department ready for service.

DISTILLERIES STOPPED -The commander of the post at Nashville has closed the distrileries in the counties of Stewart, Montgomery, Robertson, and Cheatham, (Tenn.) on account of the scarcity of grain

FROM THE SOUTHERN STATES

The Confederate currency continues to form a chief topic of discussion in the Southern journals, (received from Richmond to the 24th ultimo,) and projects for reducing its volume are proposed on all sides. One writer

"The rate of interest now paid by the Government upon its coupon bonds is equally as onerous as if paid in old and eilver. Example: An exporter owes duties to the Government to the amount of \$80 in gold, which, at market value, is \$1 000 in currency. Does be pay the \$80 in gold? Fo. Does he pay the \$1,000 in currency? No; he presents a coupon from a cotton bond; this coupon, instead of being redeemed at the Trea-sury for its fancied value of \$80, comes in costing sury for its funcied value of \$50, comes in costing \$1,000. The exporter, for his cotton, receives Erglish gold, of which he takes \$150 exchange, and turus it itto currency, realizing \$2,200, with which he buys a fifsen million cotton bond, with three years' interest due on i ; the coupons aggregating \$240 He pays these in lieu of gold for his export duties, coolly pocketing his bond for \$1,000 against the Government, and boasts of investing in Confederate bonds, as all true patriots should. It is easy to see who gains by the operation.

"The gold and silver coin now in the country lies idle in the vaults of the banks. Why not make available this powerful engine for assistance? For the new issue of coin the women would send in their rings, the men their silver ware; confidence in the currency would be estab-lished; a new flame of patriotism would burst out, and by its bright flash we would see that beautiful horizon of our future, peace and independence.

A LETTER FROM A. H. H. STUART.

Among those who have given publicity to their views on the engressing subject of the currency is the Hop. ALEX. H. H. STUART, formerly Secretary of the Interior. We extract the following from an abridgment of his letter:

"The propositions of Mr. Stuart are stated with great clearness, and supported with consummate ability.
"The first thing to be done is to stop the issue of more treasury notes. Unless this be done, all farther action upon the subject is evidently vain; for it is the redundancy of the currency that has raised prices to their present fabulous neight, and that having occasioned the depreciation in the first instance, renders its downhill march inevitable as the lume increases. The circulation is now \$650,000,000tain ridges on which they were so strongly posted before the treasury issues \$50,000,000 a month. In a year we Chattanooga, is a conspicuous display of weakness that shall have a circulation of \$1,250,000 000. A barrel of flour now sells for \$50; the price will keep pace with the increase of volume and deminution in value of the currency-in a year a barrel of flour will cost \$100. Every hing continues to go up in the same ratio.

"No Government on earth can stand such a system. There must be a radical reformation or we are done for. It belongs to Congress to make the reform. It must not shrink from the task; it must do it speedily and it must de "The printing press having been stopped, the next

thing is to retire all the outstanding Treasury notes, ex-cept about \$200,000,000 worth. This might of course be done by a direct tax; but Mr. S. thinks that would bear too hard on the people. The estimate of Mr. Memminger (\$150,000,000) for circulation is too small. It might have done when all the business of the country was done by means of credit and the machinery it employs, but will not answer now, when every thing is cash. He proposes a tax and forced loan of twelve per cent. on all the pro-perty, real and personal, in that portion of the Confede-States wh ca are still available for the purpose, according to the estimated value of the same recorded in ast census of the United States. This estimated value is \$4 500,000,000 specie valuation. Twelve per cent. would give \$540 000 000 for the tax, of which \$450,000 000 could be applied to retiring the circulation, and \$90,000,000 to the Government for its various necessities. The laying of this tax and forced loan would have an immediate effect upon the currency. Every body, instead of trying to stuffle off their Treasury notes, would be saving them and looking out for more, in order to get money to pay the tax. The demand being thus prodigiously increased, the Treasury notes would appreciate. In a little time, the aithdrawal of so large a sum from circulation would occasion a scarcity. 'For the ultimate payment of the debt thus incurred.

an export duty on cotton, tobacco, and naval stores is proposed. It has been objected to this, that the Cotton ites would not agree to it. It is easily demonstrable that it would do them no injury. It has been argued that it would throw the greater portion of the burden upon them. This argument is founded on the assumption that the producer of cotton pays the export duty. This is not true to the full extent of the assumption. It has been said that the consumer pays the duty, as it is now said teat the Both propositions are true, and both producer pays it. false. If a duty be laid upon an article with which the market is glutted, and for which there is little demand, the producer pays, of course On the other hand, if a duty be aid on an article which is very scarce, and for which there is a great demand, the consumer pays. If the Legislature lay a tax of two dollars on flour, which is greatly in denand and scarce, the holder charges two do bis flour, and the consumer pays it. On the other hand were the same tax laid on a barrel of flour, and, our ports o ing opened, the quantity should be increased until it was mere drug, the preducer being obliged to sell his flour at a loss would pay the tax, and have no means of rebursing himself. " Now, this is exactly the condition of Southern cotton,

as the war has proved. Before the war the planter was glad to get twelve cents for it. Now it sells readily in Liverpool and New York for seventy-two cents. We have therefore the entire control of the market, and no competitors. India, Egypt, Southern Africa, and the West Indies have all failed. We can sell our staple always at what price we please, laying on the tax. Thus it can fall on the cotton planter. The amount of cotton exported before the war was about 4,000,000 bales of 500 pounds each. Say that loss of labor will reduce that amount on million. We have still three million, and a duty of ten cents a pound would bring \$150,000,000. This would pay he interest on \$2,000,000,000, and leave us \$30,000,000 What has been said of cotton is true of tobacco. We have the control of the market, and can make Europe pay our taxes out of it. Both England and France have be ng enormous revenues of it. Let us make them pay more r it in the future. "It is of importance, in the mean time, to pay as we go,

so far as we can, in order to avoid as far as possible an accumulation of debt. The ability to pay must come from a regular and vigorous system of taxation.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

The Richmond Enquirer is disgusted with the foreign policy of the rebel authorities. Commenting on the letter of Mr. De Leon to Jeff. Davis, recently intercepted and published in Northern journals, the Enquirer says:

"We wish to awaken the President and the Congress to the fact—now, at last, patent enough—that all mighty diplomatic mimicry of a foreign policy, while we have no foreign relations at all, has done us no service and no credit. The thing is a farce, and would be nothing worse than ludicrous were it not for the secret operations which we are told are going on 'over there,' and which nobody knows of but Mesers Benjamin and Slidell. This makes the matter serious; and it must all be speedily explored and turned inside out of there is any good in a Con federate Congress at all We beg leave to suggest a short joint resolution of both Houses that the President be requested to shut up the Department of State, to lock its door, and put the key in his pocket."

THE IMPRESSMENT SYSTEM.

The despotism of the impressment system is occasioning great dissatisfaction among the people. The Charles ton Courier has the following facts relative to the impressment of provisions in that State:

"While numerous commissaries, post quartermasters and other Government agents have been and are practising gross abuses, oppressing the people, menacing the towns and villages of the State with starvation, and bringing the Government into odium, the Government is also largely to blame for a course of measures scarcely less censurable.

"Prominent among Government abuses is the enforcement of the impressment law while the tirbe or produce tax is in process of collection, and the tithes are waiting for the tithe-g-therer, and often waiting and even rotting for lack of his approach. In addition to this, information is constantly reaching us of delay in collecting or transporting Government supplies after they are purchased, and waste and destruction of the same at or near the Govern ment or railroads depots.

"On Friday last, at Bonneau's Station, on the Northeastern Railroad, we saw Government corn in process of removal, which had been purchased and stored and been intergoing waste and damage there ever since June or Both at the same depot, and at that near Mouck's Corner, we are told that large quantities of Government fodder, purchased in the vicinity, were suffered to be wasted, cattle teeding on it ad libitum, and large portions of it rotting and diffusing off-naive odors. In Upper St John's a planter still has in his barn, put up in sacks, 1,200 bushels of corn, bought and paid for by the Governmont in May last—a prey to weaves and rats—because no one has yet come for it We were informed, not very long ago, that at Charlotte, (N. C.) one had to walk for a con erable distance on bags of Government corn to reach he railroad depot, and that hogs were feeding on it. Surey such criminal waste and abuses should challenge the attention of the proper authorities, and be met by proper

ANOTHER REBEL RAID .- The Rockville (Md.) Sentinel of Friday says : "A party of t-n or twelve Confedent crossed the Potomac in a flat-boat, a short distance below Edwards's Ferry, and captured two of the Federal pickets stationed on this side, together with a canal boat laden own craft, they returned to the opposite shore.'